

drove me back from the Barracks to the Fort against a biting wind at over 30 below. The Lieutenant Governor was exceedingly kind and promised all available assistance. Two Chiefs had applied for relief, and I carried back an order on the Hudson Bay Company for some provisions. The following Spring I think the Indians received an amount of seed.

The old chief "Day Star" at Big Touchwood Hills was a fine specimen of the real Crees. It was a privilege to show him and his band how to begin farming, and a still greater one to preach Christ to them. The women as well as the men worked in clearing away the brush ready for the plow. Day Star was a fine man, and it was a pleasure to hear him speak in his native tongue. One Fall, after receiving his annuity, he bought a small barrel of salt pork and left it at the Mission, while he with many others spent the cold weather at Long Lake. Now and then he would send for a piece of his "cache" making the supply last quite a long time. It is however, much to be regreted, that he never, to my knowledge, became a Christian.

In the Spring of 1877 an amount of seed was again given to the different bands, and Providentially, a good crop was realised, so that some at least were in a better position to live more on the Reserves than to flee to their miserable hovels at Long Lake. During that year also an energetic son of Rev. James Lettee (a native missionary) came to help us in the general work among the Indians, while Mr. Pratt was sent to labor among those at Big Touchwood. The school which was already recognized by the Indian Department had a serious drawback, for the heathen generally with their usual tenacious conventionalism objected to sending their children to be taught. A good school treat, however, when the scholars ate to the full, and various games were taught them and prizes awarded, all of which seemed a novelty in these parts, offered some encouragement to them and us. Now, after 30 or more years, as regards this branch of the work, the contrast is very striking, witnessed by the various Boarding and Industrial Schools teeming with pupils that stand as beacons here and there "O'er all the pleasant lands" and prove what the Government is doing for the young people of the Red Skins.